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June 23, 1977

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Admiral Stansfield Turner  
Director CIA  
Washington Memorial Parkway  
Langley, Virginia 23665

Dear Admiral:

You may remember me

when we had the pleasure of a site visit at the Naval War College then under your command.

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The purpose of this letter is a belated congratulation to you for your new assignment. I say belated because at first I looked with jaundiced eye on your appointment as CIA Director which, I feared, could react adversely on your naval career. So many of your admirers, and the writer is but one, envision you as our best prospect as CNO and, God willing, Chief of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

As I have followed the publicity in TIME magazine it is obvious that you are taking the CIA on a shakedown cruise and it and our country will gain immeasurably by your leadership in this important role. But all this, of course, you weighed carefully before you accepted the assignment. I should not have feared for the consequences of your judgement; yet, perhaps I may be pardoned for my apprehension.

Be so good as to accept the congratulations and well wishes from a junior, retired naval person. May you have fair wind and following seas, always.

Most respectfully yours,

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